

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 NSC-10 ACDA-19 EB-11 H-03 OMB-01

COME-00 ABF-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /167 W

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R 151812Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8028

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 02115

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, UK

SUBJECT: BURDENSARING - SYMPATHY, BUT NO TEA

REF: STATE 023937; USNATO 558

WE HAVE AGAIN DISCUSSED ISSUE OF COST SHARING FORMULAE FOR NATO BUDGETS WITH BOTH FOREIGN OFFICE AND MOD. BRITISH OFFICIALS REAFFIRM CONSISTENT HMG POSITION THAT, WHILE THEY ARE SYMPATHETIC TO OUR PROBLEM AND WILL GIVE US ALL POSSIBLE SUPPORT WITH THEIR EUROPEAN PARTNERS, THEY CANNOT OFFER US ANY HOPE OF AN INCREASE IN THE UK CONTRIBUTION BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY CONSIDER THE RELATIVELY WORSE POSITION OF UK IN TERMS OF BOTH BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND PERCENTAGE SHARE OF THESE BUDGETS. LIKEWISE, HMG FEELS IT CANNOT TAKE LEAD IN LOBBYING FOR A REDUCTION IN US COSTS IT IS UNABLE TO HELP OFFSET AND BELIEVES SUCH ACTION COULD, IN FACT, BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Remarks:
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